Amendments to the Specification

Amend paragraph 0026 as shown below in marked form:

[0026] **Fig. 3** shows a perspective view of a coating device **30** that can be used to apply a substantially uneven coating to strand **10** and improve the uniformity of the applied coating so that low spots, voids and high spots are eliminated. Device **30** includes roll **26** of **Fig. 2** and a second roll **32** whose diameter for the embodiment shown in **Fig. 3** is approximately twice that of roll **26**. If desired, roll **32** can have a larger, equal or smaller diameter in comparison to the diameter of roll **26**. For the device setup shown in **Fig. 3**, strand **10** passes through grooves **34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46** and **48** located alternately on rolls **26** and **32**, with the remaining grooves in rolls **26** and **32** being unused. The path is chosen so that the wet coated strand will come into physical contact with at least two rotating coating-wetted roll surfaces during operation of device **30**. Coating liquid **12** is applied dropwise from dispenser **50** into groove **34** or onto strand **10** at a rate sufficient to produce a substantially uneven coating on strand **10**. The applicator in effect applies the coating as a series of interrupted patches (which in the interest of brevity can be referred to as "stripes") into groove **34** or onto strand **10**. Preferably the coating liquid is supplied at a metered or adjusted rate so that the average deposition rate per unit length of strand is controlled or otherwise regulated. Although in **Fig. 3** coating liquid **12** is shown as being applied near the point at which strand **10** first reaches roll **26**, coating liquid **12** can be applied to the groove **34** or the strand **10** at any other convenient upstream (or "up ~~wire~~ strand") location before strand **10** reaches roll **26**, or at any other convenient downstream (or "down strand") location after strand **10** first contacts roll **26**.